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Amdt. dated December 5, 2003

Response to Office Action of August 4, 2003

Amendment to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph starting with "Based upon the information" beginning on page 7, lines 10-22 with the following amended paragraph:

Based upon the information received from the above described units, the title evaluation point determination unit 128 determines the likelihood of containing a title for each minimal circumscribing rectangle and expresses the likelihood in terms of a sum of points. For example, a higher number of points is generally given to a large size character set since a title is usually larger than text. Similarly, a higher number of points is generally given for a character set that is underlined or otherwise emphasized. A higher point is assigned to the natural language determination information indicating a title row such as "title:" or "re:." The points are optionally weighted for each category of information. Any combination of categories of the above described information is also optionally used to determined the likelihood. The title evaluation point determination unit 128 determines whether the largest sum is above a predetermined threshold value to qualify an area corresponding to the largest sum of points as a title area. A title extraction unit 130 extracts the qualified title while a display unit 131 displays the extracted title.